

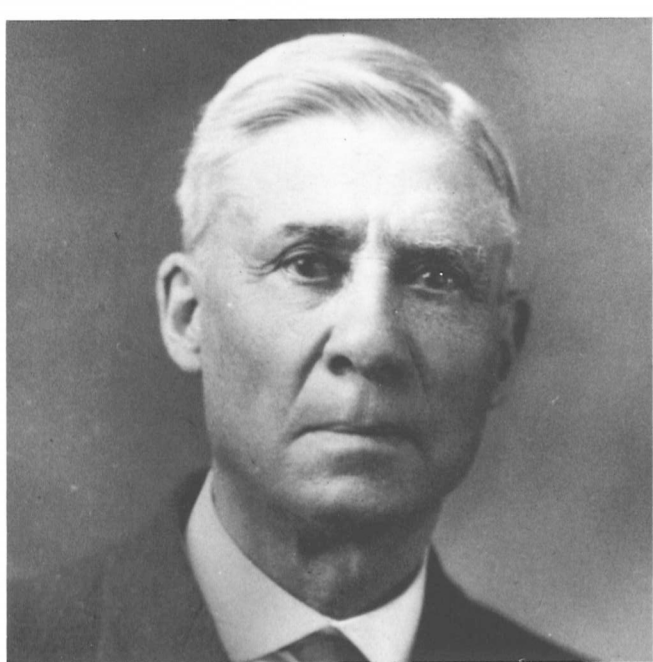
George H. Brimhall Building  
Gallery Opening  
Brigham Young University  
Monday, April 4, 1988  
375 Ernest L.  
Wilkinson Center

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As shadows flee from light,

so does ignorance from learning.

— George H. Brimhall



*George H. Brimhall*

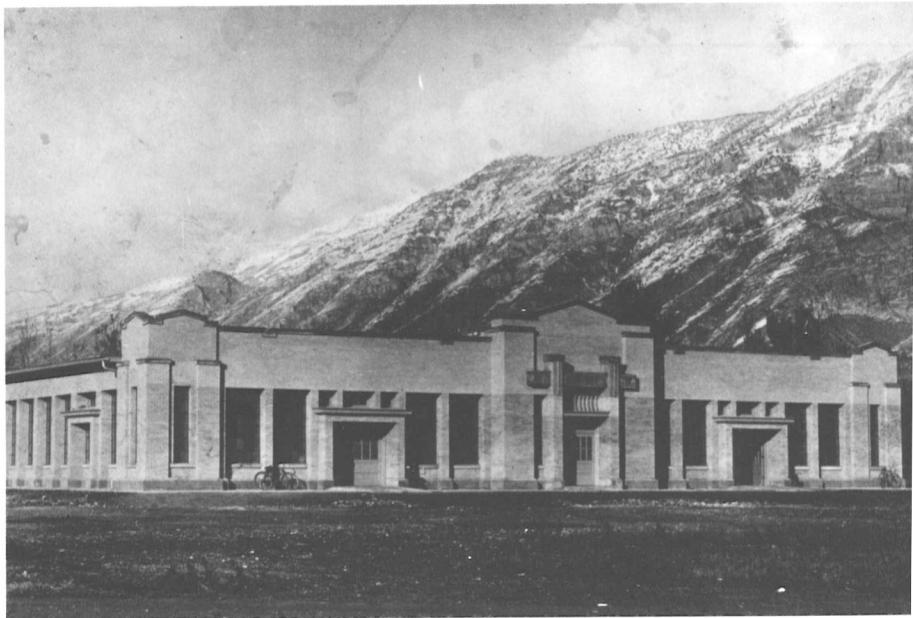
GEORGE H. BRIMHALL was born in a log cabin in Salt Lake City in 1852. He supported himself while at the Brigham Young Academy by working in the school as a janitor and assistant to President Cluff. Upon graduation he moved to Spanish Fork, where he taught school and was involved in local public service. In 1891 George accepted a Church calling as a faculty member at the

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BYA, working for \$20 per month.

An able teacher and administrator, Brother Brimhall was asked in 1904 to be the president of BYU. During his 17-year tenure the University purchased the land known as Temple Hill, constructed several buildings, introduced graduate work, and granted its first master's degrees.

The Mechanic Arts Building was constructed in 1918, part of President Brimhall's plan to expand the popular Student Army Training Corps program.







The building originally housed shops for auto mechanics, wood-working, black-smithing, and drafting. The spacious windows provided ample lighting.

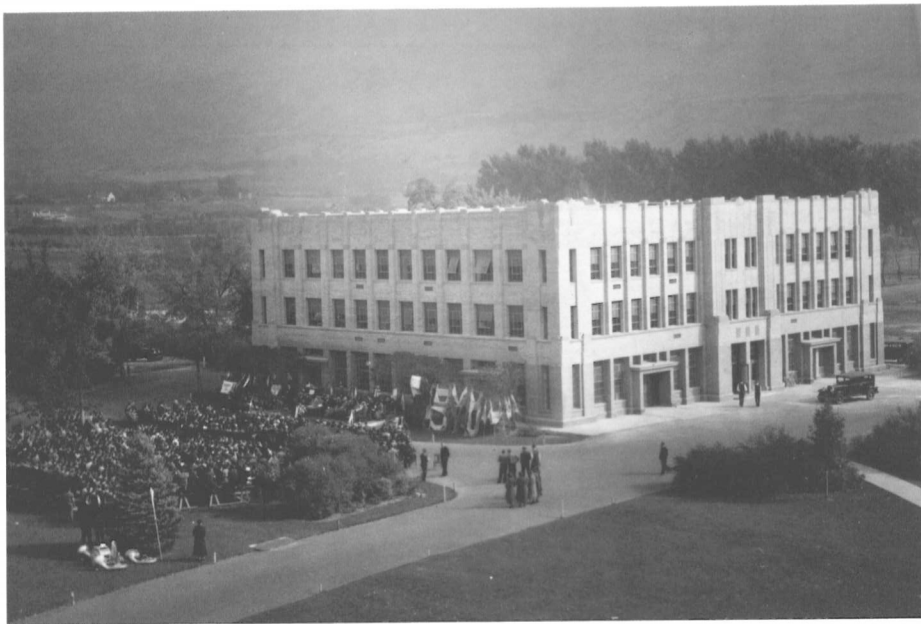
When he started, however, the question for BYU was not growth but survival. Church-supported schools then had difficulty getting funding, especially for advanced academic programs. Many of the Brethren were inclined to leave higher education to the state universities, and limit Church sponsorship to high schools and

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*teacher-training schools. Through his vision, hard work, and personal relations, George Brimhall was instrumental in strengthening the fledgling university financially and academically. Just a few years into his term, in fact, BYU became the official university of the Church.*

*President Brimhall was also concerned*

In 1935 two floors were added to the building, which was then renamed after George Brimhall. The large frames of the double garage doors are still evident.





The building's enduring utility and beauty have confirmed the wisdom of choosing the addition in place of a less expensive temporary structure.

*about strengthening the student body, both academically and spiritually. Very popular with the students and the community, he frequently spoke at firesides and special occasions. His successor, Franklin S. Harris, said, "George H. Brimhall under a tree would make a university any day, for where he teaches students will always gather*

*to be taught." And President Ezra Taft Benson recalls: "No man has so inspired me with so few spoken words as has President Brimhall in his famous four-minute talks."*

*With the advent of World War I, President Brimhall feared that if the University could not provide the students military training they would go elsewhere to get it. Accordingly,*

From agronomy to zoology, the Brimhall Building has been home to many University programs and departments.





Having come full circle from drafting and auto mechanics, the building currently houses graphic arts and industrial design.

*BYU established in 1918 a branch of the Student Army Training Corps, which offered vocational, technical, and military training. This new emphasis meant that the school needed new facilities, so in 1918 work was begun on the Mechanic Arts Building. The original structure was only one story high; in 1935 two floors were added and it was*

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renamed the George H. Brimhall Building. In the dedicatory address, President Heber J. Grant called Brother Brimhall "one of the choicest, finest, most spiritual-minded, loyal, true men that I ever knew." It is with great pleasure that we again honor George H. Brimhall: beloved teacher, president, and benefactor of Brigham Young University.

The George H. Brimhall Gallery is made possible by a generous gift from Delbert V. and Jennie H. Groberg and donations from other descendants of President Brimhall.



Seek the truth, love man and God

And in your work be glad;

Be much more moved by love of good

Than by the fear of bad.

—George H. Brimhall